



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Friday, June 14, 2002

COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT TO BEGIN ROADSIDE VEGETATION CONTROL

Within the next two weeks the Monroe County Department of Transportation will begin the application of roadside herbicides to selected guiderail locations and signposts on county maintained roadways.

Maintaining the visibility of guiderails and signs is essential to providing safe travel for vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle traffic. This annual undertaking is needed in order to halt the growth of weeds and other vegetation that can visually obscure the presence of guiderails and signs.

Undesirable vegetation can become overgrown, creating a hazard along the shoulder of the road. Strong root systems can also damage and break apart pavement. Less than three percent of the total county maintained roadways are treated with herbicides. These areas, primarily under and behind guiderails and at the base of a road sign, are often treated with a hand-held applicator. The process should take about ten days to complete.

This project will be executed in compliance with the New York State Department of Transportation's Integrated Vegetation Management Plan, which includes approved methods of control and tactics to minimize the need for control as outlined in the Department's Environmental Initiative.

The New York State Department of Transportation has a toll-free hotline for county residents to find out if there are plans to spray in their area: (877) 201-8762.

As part of its roadside vegetation control program, Monroe County follows all applicable and appropriate State and Federal guidelines, statutes, and laws.

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For further information, call:
Communications & Special Events at 428-2380
Visit us on the web: www.monroecounty.gov

